

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1692 - HB 1778

March 16, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Allows third parties to appeal the issuance of permits and denials before the Water Quality Control Board.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000

Estimate assumes:

- every major project and many minor projects the Department of Transportation constructs streams and wetlands, which are regulated by the Department of Environment and Conservation, under the jurisdiction of the Water Quality Control Board.
- the Department of Transportation has approximately 300 construction projects subject to these permits and annually awards approximately 200.
- permits obtained from the Department of Environment of Conservation would become subject to the Water Quality Control Board action by interested parties who oppose the project.
- an appeal to the Board would cause project delays resulting in delays up to a month, estimating that one month delays could result in costs up to \$100,000.
- if 10% of new projects and 10% of current projects were delayed for one month costs could exceed \$3,000,000. (30 x \$100,000 + 20 x \$10,000).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director